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LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of an appeal dated 14 May 1996 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, His Excellency Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rashid ALIMOV
Permanent Representative
of Tajikistan to the United Nations

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex

Letter dated 14 May 1996 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to draw your attention to the increasing deterioration in the social and political situation in certain regions of my country as a result of the obvious reluctance of the forces opposing the constitutional authorities to settle outstanding questions by peaceful means, particularly through the mechanism of the inter-Tajik talks which are being held under the auspices of the United Nations.

The intransigent wing of the armed opposition, which has long terrorized the civilian population of various districts, including the capital of the Republic, by means of bandit raids, has begun to wage military operations against the government forces in the Tavildara region, presumably with the consent of the leaders of the Tajik opposition.

These activities, which are blatantly contrary to the terms of the Tehran Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts, have caused casualties on both sides and serious damage to the economy of the Pamir region.

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan believes that aggravating the situation and relying on military force to settle the outstanding questions is to move wittingly towards an impasse. We accept the appeal of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan for an immediate cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts, and hope that an adequate response will be forthcoming from the Tajik opposition.

The leadership of the Republic of Tajikistan reaffirms its commitment to a peaceful settlement of the problems around Tajikistan and requests that you consider the emerging situation in the country and assist in resolving it by peaceful means.

(Signed) Emomali RAKHMONOV
President of the Republic of Tajikistan